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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office

SUBJECT : Requirements for Present Satellite
Image-Forming Sensors

1. I have read with interest your memorandum of 16 June. Your summary of the USIB requirements is essentially accurate and I believe your plans as described are likely to meet the needs of the intelligence community as established by USIB. As you know, no one can predict with precision even the short term world situation and the associated intelligence needs. For this reason we must maintain scheduling flexibility rather than falling into rigid patterns.

2. As guiding principles to our satellite collection efforts, the following must continue to apply:

a. USIB, taking into account the existing priority needs, the collection potential of a mission, and within the operational restraints, will approve specific mission launch dates within a time frame of a few days.

b. USIB will furnish, through the COMOR and its working groups, mission-to-mission guidance on the specific tasks to be performed based on evaluations of the current priorities for intelligence information.

c. USIB will consider data from previous missions both in launch date selection and in specific tasking. Thus, the time between launches will normally be adequate to prevent redundant coverage and to exploit most efficiently the expensive collection efforts.

3. I shall continue to task COMOR to keep the USIB informed of the status of our collection efforts against both the long and short term requirements.

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4. If there are important reasons why you feel that the principles stated above should be changed, I suggest that they be fully explained and discussed with COMOR for its recommendation to me and the Board.

((signed)) W. F. Raborn
W. F. RABORN

CONCUR:

[REDACTED]

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR INTELLIGENCE

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DDI/CGS/Reconnaissance Group, [REDACTED] mm (22 June 1965) x7871

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